

REMARKS

Please reconsider the present application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application and for noting the indefinite steps in claim 9.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 6-11 are pending in the present application. Claims 6 and 9 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 6 and 9.

Claim Amendments

Independent claim 9 has been amended by way of this reply. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments. Applicant believes the included amendments do not require a new search, or at least simplify issues for appeal, and accordingly, applicant respectfully requests entry and favorable consideration thereof.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 112

Claims 9-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 9 has been amended in this reply to clarify the present invention recited. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention is directed to an analog/digital television signal receiving set. Further, the present invention is directed to a method for creating a channel map. As seen with reference to Figure 1 of the Specification, in one exemplary embodiment of the present invention, the CPU (26) processes the flow chart shown in Figures 3 and 4 to make the channel

map (*see Specification, page 14, lines 16-17, page 19, lines 4-6*). The channel map includes analog television channels and a virtual channel table of television signals.

Figures 3 and 4 of the Specification show steps for creating a virtual channel table according to one embodiment of the present invention. For example, in step S5, a determination is made as to whether a digital television signal is received. If the signal is received, virtual channel data are stored in the memory (28) according to step S7. Similarly, when an analog television channel is received, the channel number is stored in the memory (28). A determination is made as to whether an analog channel stored in the memory (28) is received and the corresponding digital channel exists in the virtual channel in step S23. If the analog channel is received and the digital channel exists, the analog channel is deleted, as shown in step S25. Further, as shown in step S27, data for the virtual channel is deleted when the digital channel indicated by the virtual channel data cannot be received (*see Specification, page 14, line 16 – page 18, line 25*).

Accordingly, if any channels overlap, an appropriate channel is deleted from the channel map such that overlapping channels do not exist. A user can then easily select a desired channel without selecting duplicate channels. Thus, embodiments of the present invention allow a channel map to be simplified so that a user can easily select a desired channel.

Thus, in describing a method for generating a channel map, amended claim 9 requires the steps of: (i) storing at least one of an analog television channel and a virtual channel table of television signals in a channel map, (ii) detecting a state of reception of a digital television channel included in the virtual channel table, where the digital television channel corresponds to the analog television channel, (iii) deleting the analog television channel if the state of reception shows that the digital television channel included in the virtual channel table is received, and (iv)

deleting the digital television channel if the state of reception shows that the digital television channel included in the virtual channel table is not received.

Accordingly, as analog channels and digital channels stored in a virtual channel table are used to generate a channel map, claim 9 is not indefinite, and withdrawal of the § 112, second paragraph, rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 103

Claims 6-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,600,522 issued to Kim et al. (hereinafter “Kim”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,483,547 issued to Eyer (hereinafter “Eyer”). Claim 9 has been amended in this reply to clarify the present invention recited. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, the present invention is directed to an analog/digital television signal receiving set and a method for creating a channel map. Further, as discussed above, claim 9 requires deleting an analog television channel from a channel map if the state of reception shows that the corresponding digital television channel included in a virtual channel table is received, and deleting the digital television channel from the channel map if the state of reception shows that the digital television channel included in the virtual channel table is not received. Similarly, independent claim 6 requires a deletion member configured to delete one of an analog television channel and a corresponding digital television channel from the storage member. The deletion member is configured to delete the analog television channel from the storage member if the state of reception indicates that the digital television channel included in the virtual channel table is received and to delete the digital television channel from the storage member if the state of reception indicates that the digital television channel included in the virtual channel table is not received.

Accordingly, if any channels overlap, an appropriate channel is deleted from the channel map such that overlapping channels do not exist. A user can then easily select a desired channel without selecting duplicate channels. Thus, embodiments of the present invention allow a channel map to be simplified so that a user can easily select a desired channel.

Kim, in contrast to the present invention, fails to show or suggest the present invention as recited in the above limitations of independent claims 6 and 9 of the present invention. The Examiner asserts that it would have been obvious to delete one of the analog and/or digital channel having a common channel. However, Kim is completely silent with respect to deleting an analog channel if the state of reception of a corresponding digital channel is received. Kim states that analog and digital broadcast signals are not divided into certain sections, but are mixed together. Thus, when increasing the channel number for a channel search, Kim judges whether the current channel is an analog channel. If the current channel is an analog channel, the availability of the channel for digital service is not checked (*see Kim, col. 5, lines 3-13*). Thus, Kim implies that analog channels are kept regardless of circumstance, including when a corresponding digital channel is received. Kim does not even contemplate the possibility of a received digital television channel overlapping with a received analog television channel.

Eyer, like Kim discussed above, fails to show at least the above limitations of independent claims 6 and 9 of the present invention. Eyer states, as an example, that both a standard quality analog version and a higher quality digital version of the same service can be provided. Eyer states that analog and digital TSIDs may be identical, or as a more likely scenario, the TSIDs may be non-identical, but related (*see Eyer, col. 5, lines 45-56*). Eyer implies that both analog and digital services, when concurrently present, are available to the user. Further, as discussed with reference to col. 7, lines 64-67 of Eyer, one application of the device

of Eyer is to properly identify analog signals that are broadcast concurrently *with counterpart digital services carrying the same service*. Thus, like Kim discussed above, Eyer provides no motivation to delete an analog channel when a corresponding digital channel is provided.

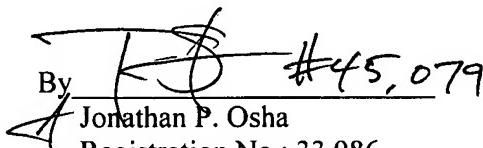
In view of the above, Kim and Eyer, whether taken separately or in combination, fail to show or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claims 6 and 9. Thus, independent claims 6 and 9 are patentable over Kim and Eyer. Dependent claims are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places the present application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 04995/043001).

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Respectfully submitted,

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